

The Value of Friends

Socrates once asked a simple old man what he was most thankful for. The man replied, "That being such as I am, I have had the friends I have had."

Our English word *friend* comes from the same root as the word *freedom*. A genuine friend sets us free to be whom and what we are. We can pour out our doubts and talk freely about the wolves howling at the doors of our lives.

A faithful friend also affirms our worth. Queen Victoria said of William Gladstone, "When I am with him, I feel I am with one of the most important leaders in the world."

But of Benjamin Disraeli she said, "He makes me feel as if I am one of the most important leaders of the world."

We who work in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home have an inside track on making and being friends because of the customers drawn to us by the service and environments we provide. We become part of one big family.

In the spiritual realm, because of Jesus Christ, we have the truest Friend anyone can have.

And we belong to one great, eternal family.

--Beecher Hunter